

Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh.  
 Saint Angela's College, Sligo.  
 Summer Examinations 1999.

Fourth Year B.A. Social & Community Studies.

### History

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Answer *four* questions.

Time allowed: *three* hours.

1. What were the main objectives of Irish cultural nationalists in the early 20th century ?

or

"Partition reflected the reality of a divided political community in Ireland; it did not create that fundamental division". Discuss.

2. What were the principal difficulties faced by the Irish labour movement in the period before 1914 ?

or

What were the main social problems in early 20th century Ireland ? How successfully were they addressed, up to 1914 ?

3. What did the British government hope to achieve by the Government of Ireland Act (1920) ?

or

Why did Sir James Craig feel compelled to insist upon the 'Protestant' character of the Northern Ireland State long after any republican military threat had receded ?

4. "The Irish Free State in the first decade of its existence provided a classic example of the triumph of pragmatism over dogma". Is this a fair assessment of Cumann na nGaedheal economic policy, 1922-32?

or

Assess Fianna Fáil's programme of economic self-sufficiency in the period 1932-1945 ?

5. Discuss the role of Labour politics in Northern Ireland during the Stormont years.

or

Account for the relative weakness of the Labour movement in the Irish Free State, between 1922 and the 1960s.

6. Discuss the social policies implemented by the Cumann na nGaedheal governments. To what extent were these changed by Fianna Fáil after 1932?

or

"De Valera's social vision idealised, but also marginalised, women in the social and economic life of the country". Discuss.

7. Discuss the main developments in Irish foreign policy in the fifty years after 1922.

8. Compare and contrast the war experience of the two states in Ireland during the years 1939-45.

or

What were the objectives of government policy in relation to the Irish language during the period 1922-c.1960? How successful was this policy ?

9. Discuss the view that, in respect of Irish education, the opening and closing periods of the 20th century 'were marked by lively debate and expansionist policies whereas the middle decades were characterised by a distinct inertia'?

or

Discuss the main developments in Irish education since 1922.

10. What was the background to, and the significance of, the launch of a new economic policy for the independent Irish state by T.K.Whitaker in the late 1950s ?

or

"Not only the Irish economy, but Irish society as a whole, turned decisively in a new direction in the early 1960s ". Discuss.

11. "Emigration has been the single most important fact of social history in independent Ireland since 1922". Discuss.

12. "He was the wrong man with the right ideas". Assess this verdict on Terence O'Neill.

or

Why did the reform agitation in Northern Ireland in 1968 lead 'from civil rights to armalites'?

13. Account for the failure of the Sunningdale Agreement.

or

Why was there such strong popular support in the Republic for Ireland's entry to the European Economic Community in the early 1970s ?

14. "It is a curious paradox that, with all the social and economic transformation of recent decades, the basic structures of Irish politics (including the party system) have remained remarkably stable". Discuss.

or

Account for the spectacular performance of the so-called Celtic Tiger economy during the 1990s.

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